



STATE OF ARKANSAS

# House of Representatives

## REPRESENTATIVE

David Rainey

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Phone:

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## DISTRICT 11

### Counties:

Part Jefferson County

Part Lincoln County

Part Desha County

## COMMITTEES

### Education

Kindergarten through Twelve,

Vocational/Technical Institutions

Subcommittee

### Insurance and Commerce

Utilities Subcommittee

### Vice Chairperson,

Joint Committee on Advanced

Communications and Information

Technology

### Joint Budget

January 7, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski

Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Colleagues:

You are currently considering matters of significant consequence to the communities I represent and the issues I consider of utmost importance. As you consider whether it is right and appropriate to impose regulations on the Internet, I urge you to do so with care and caution.

Universal broadband holds great hope for our school students, especially those in rural and minority families who often do not have home Internet access. Universal broadband would also ensure that African Americans and others who are historically disadvantaged and under-reached by broadband Internet service can finally enjoy the social, economic and political benefits others may take for granted.

How we choose to reach the goal of 100 percent broadband access is a critically important question, and it will take as much as \$350 billion to achieve. This issue is at the heart of your current consideration of new regulations on Internet services. Please consider whether those rules will serve consumers well, or whether they may raise consumer costs and chill the investment needed to support the growth of the Internet.

While more remains to be achieved, I hasten to say that we have done well under our present process. At a time when so many segments of our economy have struggled, Internet providers have forged ahead with new



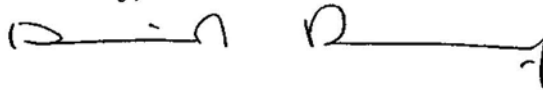
01/07/2010

Page 2

investment, reaching more Americans each year and pushing toward the goal of closing the digital divide for once and for all. This has been done with little, if any, government involvement; so, I must encourage you to think carefully about any regulations that might change this course of progress.

I respectfully ask you to tread with caution regarding any new regulations, to assure that they do not set back the people in my community. I encourage you to work toward greater educational, business and social connectivity, until we achieve the shared goal of Internet access for everyone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Rainey", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Rainey  
State Representative

DR/mlj